

Joseph Cresson
7-1841
ANNUAL REPORT

22

OF

THE MANAGERS

OF THE

Apprentices' Library Company

OF

PHILADELPHIA,

WITH AN APPENDIX.

Read at a Meeting of the Company, held at their rooms, on the 9th of
March, 1840, and published by their order.

PHILADELPHIA.

1840.

JOSEPH AND WILLIAM KITE, PRINTERS.

TO THE

APPRENTICES' LIBRARY COMPANY.



THE Board of Managers respectfully Report :

That during the past year, they have endeavoured to give that attention to the duties confided to their care, which their importance demanded.

Within the current year there have been admitted to the use of the Library 1,109 new applicants ; 1,116 boys are now receiving books, and an average of 966 have participated in the benefits of the institution. The orderly behaviour and general good conduct of the boys, indicate the influence which we are exercising over those who resort to us for the means of improvement, and should prove incentives to us to endeavour to extend more widely our sphere of usefulness.

Since last report one hundred and sixty volumes have been added to the Library, which at present contains about 10,500 volumes. Accompanying this Report will be found the account of the Treasurer for the past year, from which the members will learn the present state of the finances of the Company.

By a regulation of the Board, the Managers divide themselves into committees of attendance, and one member is required to be present each evening on which it is opened, to aid the Librarians in the distribution of the books, and the preservation of order; as well as to extend to the applicants the assistance of maturer judgment in the selection of reading suited to their years. This measure, combined with the faithful and prompt fulfilment of their duties by the Librarians, tends much to promote the usefulness of the Library.

In reviewing the labours of the past year, the Managers find cause to congratulate their fellow-members on the continued advantages of an institution, which extends its benefits to the apprentice, who is, in many instances, cut off from the world of literature, and compelled by his situation in life, to spend those years in which the future

character of the man is moulded, in associating with those who care not for his mental or moral culture ; and who often are the means of leading him into habits of immorality and dissipation.

At this interesting period of his life, the youth finds in our institution, the means of enriching his mind with the wisdom of others, and what is of more importance, an incentive to form habits of study, and to cultivate a taste for knowledge.

We have no wish to praise our own exertions ; but it is our desire to call the attention of the members, and the public, to the importance of the works we are engaged in ; and to endeavour to arouse them to a more hearty and zealous co-operation.

In very many cases, almost the only reading of entire families, is derived from our shelves ; not only do the boys who borrow the books, profit by the perusal, but fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters, share in the benefit, and are enriched by the knowledge thus acquired.

In conclusion, we would encourage one another to extend more widely the usefulness of the Library ; and we cherish the hope, that each succeeding year may add to our ability to lead for-

ward the younger members of this community in the paths of literature, knowledge and truth.

By order of the Board,

J. BOUVIER, *Chairman.*

WM. R. MAXFIELD, *Secr'y.*

Philadelphia, March 5, 1840.

OFFICERS
OF
THE APPRENTICES' LIBRARY COMPANY,
ELECTED MARCH 9, 1840.



President, HENRY TROTH.
Vice-President, PHILIP GARRETT.
Secretary, JAMES J. BARCLAY.
Treasurer, SAMUEL MASON, JR.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

Townsend Sharpless,	Peter Wright,
Isaac Barton,	David H. White,
Joseph M. Truman,	Thomas M'Collin,
Frederick Fraley,	George A. Graham,
Joseph Cresson,	Joseph Hutchinson,
John Bouvier,	Allen R. Reeves,
Isaac Lloyd, Jr.,	Benjamin Smith,
John Cooper,	Joseph H. Seal,
William R. Maxfield,	Paul W. Newhall,
John C. Cresson,	J. Warner Johnson,
William Kite,	Morton M'Michael,
Robert Pearsall,	Jesse Ogden.

John Lynas Smith, *Librarian*.
Jacob L. Smith, } *Assistant Librarians*.
James L. Barry, }

The Library is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays,
and Saturdays, from the 1st of March to 1st September,
from seven to half-past nine, P. M.; and from 1st of Sep-
tember to 1st of March, from six to nine P. M.